

AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

Please replace the claims with the following rewritten listing:

1. (Currently Amended) Method for ~~authenticating documents~~using a sales machine for selling public transportation tickets, the method comprising:

providing a sales machine configured for selling the public transportation tickets,
~~which the sales machine being configured to facilitate allows a customer to purchase~~
of goods and/or services by a customer against payment ~~by~~of a document as cash in the form of banknotes or vouchers;

providing the sales machine with a verification unit, wherein the verification unit is configured for authenticating the document;

providing the sales machine with an intermediate storage configured to maintain documents accepted until the amount of the document corresponds to or exceeds the amount of the ticket

feeding the document to a~~the~~ verification unit by means of an input unit,
containing an opening into which the document can be inserted individually and consecutively~~wherein the verification unit is provided for authenticating the document,~~

authenticating the document, wherein said authenticating the document is performed with a combination of at least two different verification methods;

comparing the at least two verification methods with verification specifications;

determining a probability of authenticity of the document

releasing the document for further processing, the further processing comprising at least one of:

accepting the document as positively authenticated when the probability meets predetermined criteria, and maintaining the document in the intermediate storage;
and

presenting the image to an operator for~~providing~~ visual verification ~~to an operator by the operator~~ when the probability does not meet the predetermined

criteria and the document is negatively authenticated, wherein the visual verification includes at least one of accepting the document when the document passes the visual verification and maintaining the document in the intermediate storage, and refusing acceptance when the document does not pass the visual verification, and feeding the document to a separate storage device for invalid documents or ejecting the document, the visual verification also including:

recording the document as an image, ~~and~~

~~presenting the image to the operator, accepting the document when the document passes the visual verification, and refusing acceptance when the document does not pass the visual verification.~~

2. (Previously Presented) Method pursuant to claim 1, wherein the at least two verification methods are selected from the group comprising size verification, magnetic verification, image verification, infrared verification, UV verification, and visual verification.
3. (Cancelled)
4. (Cancelled)
5. (Previously Presented) Method pursuant to claim 1, wherein the visual verification method is performed only on documents of a desired value.
6. (Previously Presented) Method pursuant to claim 1, wherein the visual verification method is performed via direct visual authentication of the image of the document.
- 7-8. (Cancelled)
9. (Currently Amended) Method pursuant to claim 1, wherein the operator consists of

is an entity other than the customer.

10. (New) Method for using a sales machine for selling public transportation tickets, the method comprising:

providing a sales machine configured for selling the public transportation tickets, the sales machine being configured to facilitate purchase of goods and/or services by a customer against payment of a document as cash in the form of banknotes or vouchers;

providing the sales machine with a verification unit, wherein the verification unit is configured for authenticating the document;

providing the sales machine with a storage for positively authenticated documents;

feeding the document to the verification unit by means of an input unit containing an opening into which the document can be inserted individually and consecutively,

authenticating the document, wherein said authenticating the document is performed with a combination of at least two different verification methods;

comparing the at least two verification methods with verification specifications;

determining a probability of authenticity of the document;

releasing the document for further processing, the further processing comprising at least one of:

accepting the document as positively authenticated when the probability meets predetermined criteria, and transporting the document in the storage for positively authenticated documents; and

presenting the image to an operator for visual verification by the operator when the probability does not meet the predetermined criteria and the document is negatively authenticated, wherein the visual verification includes at least one of accepting the document when the document passes the visual verification and transporting the document in the storage for positively authenticated documents,

and refusing acceptance when the document does not pass the visual verification, and feeding the document to a separate storage device for invalid documents or ejecting the document, the visual verification also including:

recording the document as an image.

11. (New) Method pursuant to claim 10, wherein the at least two verification methods are selected from the group comprising size verification, magnetic verification, image verification, infrared verification, UV verification, and visual verification.
12. (New) Method pursuant to claim 10, wherein the visual verification method is performed only on documents of a desired value.
13. (New) Method pursuant to claim 10, wherein the operator consists of an entity other than the customer.